

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2673

ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA

2673. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the Atal Bhujal Yojana which aims at improving ground-water management in the country;
- (b) the progress made under the same, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the details of fund received and utilised through the World Bank as part of the same; and
- (d) the details regarding participation of women under the said Yojana?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY)

(a) Atal Bhujal Yojana is a unique scheme which marks a paradigm shift from groundwater development to groundwater management. Salient features of the scheme include community based monitoring and sharing of groundwater data, planning, capacity building & focused Information, Education & Communication (IEC) activities. This is the first of its kind scheme to focus on activities targeting reduction in water use such as micro-irrigation, crop diversification, use of pipelines etc. for conservation of groundwater. GP-wise Water Security Plans (**WSPs**) having details about water budget and proposed demand side interventions such as micro-irrigation, crop diversification, use of pipelines etc. and supply side interventions such as check dams, farm ponds, recharge shafts and other artificial recharge / water conservation structures are prepared and executed through convergence of ongoing schemes.

(b) Atal Bhujal Yojana, a Central Sector Scheme with a total outlay of Rs.6000 crore, is being implemented in 8,203 water stressed Gram Panchayats (**GPs**) of 229 administrative Blocks/ Talukas in 80 districts of 7 States, viz., Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Initiatives taken under the scheme in the participating states are similar in nature. Major initiatives / outcomes under Atal Bhujal Yojana are as follows:

- i. In order to enable communities to take informed decisions all the participating states have disclosed ground water related data in all the Atal Jal GPs through various modes of

disclosure viz., central/state web portals, display board at each GP, social media, wall paintings, distribution of pamphlets/ brochure, public meetings, use of QR codes and Atal Jal Mobile application and which is being regularly updated.

- ii. States have facilitated preparation of water budgets and community led water security plans for all Atal Jal GPs and which is also yearly updated.
- iii. Participating States have converged an amount of Rs.4,600 crore through ongoing/ new schemes for implementation of supply side and demand side water conservation measures as proposed under WSPs.
- iv. An area of around 6.7 lakh Hectares has been brought under efficient water use practices including Drip, Sprinkler, Mulching, Crop Diversification etc. in the Participating States.
- v. More than 77,000 artificial recharge / water conservation structures have been constructed.
- vi. 1,333 GPs and 61 blocks have shown a rise in water levels in 2024.

(c) An amount of INR 2,658.16 crore has been received from the World Bank under the Atal Bhujal Yojana. Further, an amount of Rs.3,855.01 crore has been released to the participating States under the scheme, which includes the share of Government of India as well as the World Bank.

(d) Atal Bhujal Yojana is a participatory GW management program where women participation is pre-requisite and part of targeted approach also mandates minimum 33% women's participation in active decision making roles in activities of the scheme. Further women constitutes 42% of members involved in preparation of Gram Panchayat level water security plans, which are central to the scheme. Also 43% participants in training and capacity building programs under the scheme are women.
